

Memorandum

TO: EPA/HGL HSA Team

FROM: Kimberly J. Clower, HGL

DATE: February 11, 2010

SUBJECT: EPA/HGL SSFL Interview Screening Status

HydroGeoLogic, Inc. (HGL) received a list of potential Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) interviewees from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This list contained 36 names. One of these names was a current Boeing employee and HGL was advised by the EPA not to contact this person currently. HGL called and conducted screening interviews for any individuals with contact information provided on the list. HGL also conducted research on Dex White Pages, LexisNexis, and Accurant databases for individuals without contact information. A summary of HGL's research is included in Table 1 below, which addresses the 36 names provided to HGL by EPA. Following the table are screening summaries of the 12 individuals for which contact information was confirmed.

Currently, HGL had identified one deceased individual and three individuals with health issues, not willing or able to be screened. Additionally, one individual worked in Area II of the site and does not have information relevant to EPA's work. Of the 30 remaining individuals, two were previously interviewed by EPA; three provided brief information in a screening call, but do not require or desire follow-up interviews; one hung up after a phone introduction; one is expected to call back to participate in a screening call; nine require further information to determine the correct contact information for each individual; five require additional research to obtain phone numbers; and nine are willing to be interviewed further with varying degrees of useful information.

The two people most likely to provide useful disposal information for the Historical Site Assessment are **FX-6 Personal** and **FX-6**. **FX-6** may provide construction and operational information on the Sodium Reactor Experiment (SRE), but is not likely to say anything was done outside of standard practices. **FX-6** can provide information on decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) activities at the SRE, but again is not likely to say anything was done outside standard practices. **FX-6** may have minimal information on the Kinetic Experiment Water Boiler (KEWB) reactor operations. **FX-6** was previously interviewed by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and we should try to locate this interview. Mr. **FX-** and Mr. **FX-** spent little time (months) at SSFL and were primarily based at the DeSoto facility. **FX-6 Personal** may provide information on operations at the Hot Lab and **FX-6** may provide information on D&D activities at the Hot Lab from 1992-1994. **FX-6** could provide information on transport of radiological materials between buildings.

Table 1
EPA List of 36 Potential Interviewees

| Name | Phone | Address | Notes | Recommendation |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Deceased | None. |
| FX-6 | FX-6 | FX-6 Persona Privacy | Engineer at KEWB; Did not observe any dumping, but provided information on underground cussions where reactor was disposed. | Follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 Persona | FX-6 | FX-6 | Engineer for SRE/SNAP 2/10 programs; Involved with D&D at SRE; Never permanently station at SSFL (DeSoto), but oversaw crews at SSFL and made few trips to site; All waste was handled properly; Senior executive, Extensive career in nuclear engineering; Does some limited consulting. | Follow up for operational info, will not provide information on any improper waste disposal. |
| FX-6 | FX-6 | FX-6 Personal | Health Physicist at SSFL; Worked at SRE and SNAP (Buildings 10, 12, 24, 28, 59); Provide info on Hot Cell, RMDF, SRE, Sodium Burn Pit; Concerned about contamination at SSFL. | Follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 | FX-6 | ---- | Current Boeing employee. | Did not call. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 Personal | FX-6 | FX-6 Personal Privacy | FX-6 Personal FX-6 was a test engineer for Rocketdyne involved in test accident believed to include radiological contamination; FBI records search in Thousand Oaks, CA on SSFL and FBI reports on SSFL. | No follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 Personal | FX-6 | FX-6 | Former employee at SSFL Area II. | No follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 | FX-6 | FX-6 Personal Pri | Noted his father was a former employee and he would call his father to see if he would talk to EPA | Waiting to hear back. Left follow-up message. |

Table 1
EPA List of 36 Potential Interviewees

| Name | Phone | Address | Notes | Recommendation |
|------|-------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| FX-6 | FX-6 | FX-6 Personal Privacy | Engineer for AI/Rocketdyne; Spent most time at DeSoto facility, only 3-4 months at SSFL; Worked radiation fuel gauge for aircraft, KEWB reactor and SNAP transportation safety issues. | Possible follow-up interview, although Mr. FX- stated others may have more useful information. |
| FX-6 | FX-6 | FX-6 Personal Privacy | Licensed Reactor Operator; Most time at DeSoto facility; Previously interviewed by DTSC; May have useful second hand info on waste disposal, although may not want to go on the record. | See if we can get DTSC interview. Possible follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 | | | Wife noted he has serious memory problems and does not want to be interviewed. | No follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 | | | Worked for Rocketdyne 1992-1994 doing D&D on former Hot Lab; Noted he called EPA to tell it about garage owner stealing cleaners (with TCE) from SSFL and dumping waste cleaner when down – this may be source of contamination at site. | Possible follow-up interview on Hot Lab D&D, but Mr. FX-6 was more interested in passing chemical contamination info on to EPA. |
| FX-6 | | | Engineer at SRE and saw it being built and operating; Later worked at sodium facility; Knew of incidents, but was not at site of SRE “meltdown,” Noted they worked hard to enforce safety. | Follow-up interview on SRE and sodium facility operations; likely won’t provide info on improper disposal. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | FX-6 hasn’t had contact with F in 50 years. May be in AL or AR; Multiple listings for this name. | Need more info to narrow down search. |

Table 1
EPA List of 36 Potential Interviewees

| Name | Phone | Address | Notes | Recommendation |
|-------------|-------|----------------------------|---|--|
| FX-6 (sp?) | --- | --- | Worked in Building 65; FX-6 Spelling options add to multiple listings. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | --- | --- | Named by FX-6; No names listed in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | FX-6 | Hung up after phone introduction. | No follow-up interview. |
| FX-6 | | FX-6 93063 | Named by FX-6; Mechanic; Left messages with no response. | Continue to try and reach a person at this number. |
| FX-6 Person | --- | --- | FX-6 remembered FX-6 in a picture but doesn't know where he is now; Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | FX-6 | Forklift Operator/Mechanic/Shift Leader/Operation Engineer; Worked at multiple locations in Area IV, primarily with SCTI facilities; As forklift operator moved radioactive material to and from buildings; Did not know of any radiological incidents or improper disposal issues. | Possible follow-up interview on transport of radioactive material between buildings, although Mr. FX-6 didn't think he had much more to add regarding work with radiological material at SSFL. |
| FX-6 | --- | FX-6 Personal Privacy | Address likely to be accurate; No phone numbers provided in research databases. | Need assistance from EPA. |
| FX-6 | --- | FX-6 Personal Privacy FX-6 | Address likely to be accurate; No phone numbers provided in research databases. | Need assistance from EPA. |
| FX-6 | | FX-6 | Interviewed by EPA already. | None. |
| FX-6 | | | Stated he was in VA Hospital and did not want to be interviewed. | None. |

Table 1
EPA List of 36 Potential Interviewees

| Name | Phone | Address | Notes | Recommendation |
|-----------------|-------|---------|---|---|
| FX-6 Persona | | | Research mechanic; Worked in many buildings in Area III and IV, including Hot Lab; Not aware of any releases or dumping while he was working, but knew about cleanup of Sodium Burn Pit; States he didn't have any photos or documents from his time at SSFL. | Possible follow-up interview on Hot Lab operations or general radiological material handling, although Mr. FX-6 was not sure if he had any more useful information. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Interviewed by EPA already. | None. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | | Have left multiple messages at both numbers with no response. | Continue to try and reach a person at this number. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | | Quality Assurance Engineer; Did not work with radiological material; Aware of waste disposal at Sodium Burn Pit; Did not know of any incidents/releases while he worked at SSFL. | Does not want to be contacted further. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | | Address likely accurate; Left message, phone number may be incorrect. | Need assistance from EPA. |
| FX-6 | --- | ---- | Multiple listings in California. | Need more info to narrow down search. |
| FX-6 | | | In hospital for indeterminate amount of time. | None. |

Table 1
EPA List of 36 Potential Interviewees

| Name | Phone | Address | Notes | Recommendation |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---|--|
| FX-6 Personal | | | Worked in Engineering Department and Construction Management; Supervisory role in cleanup of radiological facilities; Did not know of any radiological incidents or improper disposal issues. | Does not want to be contacted further. |

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6

Astute and technical

Willing to be interviewed further

1. & 2.

Worked at Atomics International from Nov. 1955 – 1965/66

Was laid off from AI and went to work for Rocketdyne

Left Rockwell International for another company in 1968.

Most of his work was at DeSoto Facility

Spent maybe 3 or 4 months at SSFL

3. Job Titles

Engineering Specialist

Supervisor

(Physicist by training)

4. Type of Work

Directing others/Writing Reports/Experiments

Experiments included working on fuse for power and research reactors (device to automatically shut down reactors) and radiation type fuel gauge to determine aircraft fuel independent of altitude.

5. Areas of Complex

Most of work at Desoto Lab

Perhaps 3 or 4 months on-site

6. Radioactive Materials

Radiation sources Co-60 and Cs-137

Sources low intensity

Probably wore dosimetry badge part of the time

Work on KEWB reactor

Was part of a team that worked on safety issues of SNAP reactor (issues such as safe shipping from SSFL to Vandenburg AFB for launch into space and what to do if potentials problems happened in space)

7. Additional Notes

Noted FX-6 Personal (deceased) and his group would have more useful information, but not sure how many people are still around from that group.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6

Slightly hard of hearing, astute
Willing to be interviewed further

1. & 2.

Worked at Atomics International beginning in 1958, but was never “assigned to the hill” while working for AI

Only time assigned to the hill was around 1965 when working for Rocketdyne. This assignment was with the research department located in the building right as you enter the site.

Most of his work was at DeSoto Facility

3. Job Titles

Licensed Reactor Operator

4. Type of Work

Research

Worked on Radiation Fuel Gage Project using CO-60 sources placed around aircraft fuel tanks to determine amount of fuel in tanks. Had an area of the site where they were able to test tanks in different positions, but he stated he would not be able to identify this on a map if given since the site has changed so much.

5. Areas of Complex

Most of work at Desoto Lab

Research department on the hill

Couple of times worked at AE-6 reactor

6. Radioactive Materials

Radiation sources Co-60

Always wore film badges and at reactor site had dosimeters

Never witnessed any radioactive materials disposal practices, but knew people in health physics and heard second hand information (stated he would not want to be quoted on this information) [Note: I didn't push on this issue, as he seemed hesitant, but it would be worth pursuing in person]

7. Additional Notes

He has been interviewed by DTSC.

Stated most people he knew that worked at AI had a good feeling about working there

Mentioned FX-6 and FX-6 and said they would have lists of additional people to talk to.

Stated he would not be able to recognize areas on maps

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Astute

Willing to be interviewed further

1. & 2.

Began work at SSFL on June 25, 1961. Worked for Rocketdyne at Component Test Labs (CTL) 2 and 3 (not Area IV)

Laid off in 1969

Worked for Atomics International following lay off but was not on hill

1987 back on hill in Area I (APTF)

1992-1994 Worked for Rocketdyne at former Hot Lab

3. Job Titles

Couldn't recall all titles, Engineer

4. Type of Work

Directing/developing instructions for mechanics on decontamination and decommissioning operations at former Hot Lab. Preparing lab to be torn down and boxing and shipping waste

5. Areas of Complex

CTL locations

Area I APTF

Area IV Hot Lab

6. Radioactive Materials

As an engineer he didn't deal with radioactive materials, but did have to get "dressed" when going into cells. He states that any radioactive waste was shipped to dump sites off the hill for disposal.

7. Additional Notes

Stated that he called Andrew Taylor/EPA to provide the following information:

Mr. FX-6 was at a local bar and an "old time Simi Valley resident" was talking about Rocketdyne. The man had a garage and had found some cleaners (containing trichloroethylene) close to the SSFL fence line. He took the cleaners back to his garage to use and then dumped the cleaners along a fence to kill weeds. Mr. FX-6 had read an article about contamination found off the hill and wanted to pass the information on as a potential source of this contamination. He could not give much in the way of specifics of where the cleaners were found or dumped.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6

Astute, younger than most former employees, wealth of information
Willing to be interviewed further

1. & 2.

Began work at SSFL in 1962/1963 when he was 18/19 years old.

Noted that Atomics International was still dealing with cleanup from the SRE when he started. He stated AI couldn't get SRE cleaned, every time they would start it up again it would re-contaminate itself.

3. Job Titles

Health Physicist – in this position he had access to the entire site, conducted daily surveys, and would be called to every major nuclear incident

Nuclear Operator

4. Type of Work

Worked at SRE and SNAP (Buildings 10, 12, 24, 28, 59)

Would be summoned to scenes of any fires/spills as part of health physics department and evaluate the situation.

Performed smear samples of buildings (taking round litmus paper along building surfaces and mapping sample locations – would generally do 50/60 samples)

5. Areas of Complex

Worked at SRE and SNAP (Buildings 10, 12, 24, 28, 59)

6. Radioactive Materials

Yes worked around radioactive materials

7. Additional Notes

AI Log Books

Focused on importance of getting AI Log Books – these would describe all activities going on from experiments to incidents to dumping and burning activities. Stated Boeing doesn't know where log books are unless it suits them. Known as "Log Book FX-" at community meetings since he always stresses the need to get these as they would resolve a lot of contentious issues. Noted Log Books were clearly marked and each building had their own set. Really wanted EPA to force the issue of getting log books

Fire Department Records

Get fire department records or interview fire department personnel.

Noted he found 100-page document on internet describing day by day how drums of oxidizers were dumped and that this activity was signed by the chief of the fire department.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

Hot Cell

Discussed how Hot Cell was one of the most highly contaminated areas due to dissecting fuel elements after use and that if there was a fire or leak people would start running from the building as time and distance would help lessen exposure. Noted that “Red Lines” (coveralls with red strip for radiation work) were worn in tagged areas where radionuclides present, but that operators of the hot cell would be in street clothes operating the “slaves” (mechanical arms) through the concrete walls. Noted if there were any issues and cleanup was required workers may have less than a minute before receiving their monthly allowed radiation dose.

Radioactive Materials Disposal Unit/Facility (RMDU/RMDF)

Piping, tools, tables/chairs, etc. were brought to the RMDF for disposal. These items were highly contaminated and while they were decontaminated they were “not cleanable.” Mr. **FX-6** noted that items would be decontaminated, tagged, and wrapped in plastic and then placed outside in an open storage yard where they would be exposed to the elements. He recalled seeing rows of piping sitting on pallets. He noted that the plastic could tear and contamination could get into soil or storm drains in the area.

Burn Pit

Aware of Burn Pit and how drums were dumped in water, shot with a rifle and would explode. Stated NaK was dumped in burn pit and any liquids could be contaminated with radioactive materials. Also mentioned there were other dumping areas for rocket fuel.

Even empty buildings that once housed experiments remained highly contaminated.

At one time Mr. **FX-6** group was supposed to move into a building in the sodium test area, but the smell was so bad the group said they would not move.

SRE

Stated contamination at SRE was huge and that the wind would have carried radioactivity to foliage, soil, water

Gas holdup tanks on all or most all reactors. These tanks would eventually be vented and contamination would be on walls of stacks and then released to air.

Recalled time he had to trash his clothes and shoes when he first started working because he was taking a core gas sample (collecting air from around the core of the reactor via tube from core to shield plug) and there had been a core gas leak. He didn't realize he had been exposed, but upon checking his exposure level he found all his clothes were contaminated and he had to scrub down with a red/purple potassium manganate solution. (Core gas samples would be counted at specified intervals to determine the half lives of products in the gas and thus determine fission products in gas)

EPA Screening Interview Notes

General Information

Stated that drainage from Building 10, 12, and 28 ran right off the side of the mountain.

When he learned Plutonium was up on the site he wanted to “get out” because it was so dangerous.

Mr. **FX-6** was sent to a lot of training for radiation contamination and reactors.

Recalled several incidents where people were running out of buildings to escape potential contamination.

Flashing red light used on buildings if reactor was operating.

Film badges only detect direct radiation not radioactive air/gas or particulate matter.

Nak could cause burns and was highly volatile near water. Oil would be placed on drums of Nak to prevent moisture from getting in. Mr. **FX-6** was always nervous when he saw large quantities of Nak drums.

Recalled deaths in Area III from fuel test explosion and knew of two deaths in Area IV from burns/suffocation.

Mr. **FX-6** was called by UCLA for their medical studies and informed that he was on a list of former employees that received radiation overexposures.

Mentioned wind directions and contamination being carried in air (people could be outside eating and not know contamination blowing)

Surfaces of cars in parking lot would accumulate radiological contamination from air

High cancer rates in area

General Site Conditions

Sloppy housekeeping at the time.

Site was somewhat primitive when he was there – gullies along road

Rumors that the roofs of some of the buildings were not good and that the buildings did not have the best workmanship.

Other Sites/Facilities

Mentioned Rocketdyne engine tests that flooded the hill with white smoke and noxious fumes.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

Wanted EPA to look at DeSoto facility as it used enriched uranium and was in near residential area.

Other Perspectives/Interviews

People may say they didn't see anything wrong while they worked at site, but most people had restricted access and didn't know what was going on outside their immediate work area.

Noted that people may not want to talk because Boeing still holds pensions. Mr. **FX-6** is retired law enforcement and is not dependent on pension from his work at SSFL. He also noted that he had to pay attention to details in law enforcement and his attention to detail is one reason he recalls so much from his time at SSFL.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6

Astute

Willing to be interviewed further

1.& 2.

Worked for Atomics International on and off at SSFL from 1955 to 1970.

Began at work SRE, moved to Nebraska in 1961 to work on the Hallum Reactor for a few years, then came back to SRE and eventually moved onto to ETEC sodium facility.

3. Job Titles

Started as a Senior Engineer and watched the SRE being built. Became a Supervisor/Assistant Group Leader at SRE in charge of planning test programs and maintaining the plant. Also prepared test programs for Hallum Reactor in Nebraska. When Mr. FX-6 returned to SRE, he stated "SRE was in a holding pattern." He then moved on to ETEC sodium facility.

4. Type of Work

Planning test programs

Was around for fuel loading, start up, and operation of the SRE.

Was at SSFL for several incidents, but was at DeSoto facility for the 1959 fuel element damage

5. Areas of Complex

SRE and ETEC sodium facility

6. Radioactive Materials

Yes, worked around radioactive materials

Yes, observed waste disposal

7. Additional Notes

Thought the work at SSFL was successful.

Noted that they worked hard to enforce safety rules

People spreading scare stories to get grants

Lay people lack the knowledge to understand actual risk and typical radiation exposures that happen every day

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal Privacy

Astute, Technical

Willing to be interviewed further

1. & 2.

Worked for Atomics International/Rockwell from 1959 to 1989

Was never permanently station at the SSFL, his office was at Desoto facility, but when he was head of operations he would go up to visit and oversee his crew. He also spent 1 month on the hill running an experiment. Spent perhaps 6 months total time at SSFL. He later went on to work at Handford and reactors in Idaho

3. Job Titles

Started as an Engineer and did nuclear analysis and fuel development for SRE, SNAP 2, and SNAP 10A

Became head of operations and oversaw everything from people to purchasing

4. Type of Work

Nuclear analysis, fuel development, decommissioning SRE

He had a number of people working on the SRE decommissioning and was up at SSFL on and off overseeing work

Worked on UO-3 experiment using a closed loop system that did not involve fission products

5. Areas of Complex

SRE

6. Radioactive Materials

Yes, worked around radioactive materials. The biggest "incident" that occurred when he was at the SSFL was when he was at the hot cell and an alarm went out. Everyone evacuated and the Radioaction Protection Technicians came in to determine the problem. They determined residue from hydrogen testing in China (fallout) had been tracked in on the shoes of employees and the alarm sensors were sensitive enough to detect it.

Yes, observed waste disposal and it was all handled properly because "AEC was all over us."

Dr. FX-6 Personal was one of the sharpest radiation protection experts.

Mr. FX-6 did not observe any improper disposal.

7. Additional Notes

Thought the work at SSFL was successful and we should be proud of the many firsts that occurred there. U.S. was a leader in nuclear technology in the early years

Mr. FX-6 was treated well his entire career

Believes he may be one of the last senior executive alive from AI

Does some minimal consulting (1 or 2 weeks a year), had a very extensive resume when it comes to nuclear operations

EPA Screening Interview Notes

Other people to talk to include:

FX-6 Personal, Program Manager for SRE decommissioning, retired living in AR or AL
(**Note:** Need more info to narrow down search for this individual)

FX-6, **FX-6 Personal Privacy** before it merged with Rocketdyne, Bakersfield or Fresno (also program manager for B1 Bomber development)

(**Note:** Address: **FX-6 Personal Privacy** Phone: Unlisted in all databases)

FX-6 Personal, Manager of Hot Cell for 15/20 years

(**Note:** Need more info to narrow down search for this individual)

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Astute

Willing to be interviewed further

1.& 2.

Began January 1958 out of college

Worked for 3 or 4 years at the SSFL

Later worked at Canoga Park Facility

3. Job Titles

Responsible engineer for KEWB

4. Type of Work

Ran KEWB reactor and tests using reactor

5. Areas of Complex

KEWB reactor

6. Radioactive Materials

Fuel was uranyl sulfate

7. Additional Notes

Noted diluted waste was released to environment through stacks

Did not observe any dumping of waste onto ground

Underground tanks were used to collect waste

A fuel storage tank was located in the basement of KEWB facility

Outside the reactor building there were two underground caissons, the reactor vessel was disposal of in one of the caissons, not sure if anything was placed in the other caisson

Stated he would probably be able to help identify locations on aerial photos

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6

Astute

Willing to be interviewed further

1.& 2.

Worked at site from 1963-1999

Began under North American Aviation, then Rockwell, then Boeing

3. Job Titles

Forklift Driver, Operations Engineer, Shift Leader, Mechanic

4. Type of Work

Drove forklift and hauled fuel elements from SRE to Vault (Building 64), and in and out of Building 28. Did not witness any improper handling of material.

In charge of test operations and managing crews that ran operations, whether it was hydraulic, pneumatic, or radiological test.

5. Areas of Complex

Multiple buildings in Area IV, primarily SCTI and Water Loop and with Earthquake

Did work at Building 13, which at one time was used for SNAP 10 reactor assembly

6. Radioactive Materials

Worked with radiological material at DeSoto, but nothing outside of forklift transport he can recall on hill

Rarely wore film badge

7. Additional Notes

Worked at the site for 35 years and said the best available technology and safeguards were provided and used.

Willing to be interviewed, but didn't believe he had much in the way to offer regarding radiological issues for investigation.

Stated FX-6 Personal would be a good person to talk to regarding radiological issues.

(Note: FX-6 Personal is named in Boeing's 104(e) response as an employee who may have information pertaining to radiological materials/wastes. He is located at FX-6

FX-6 Personal Privacy and can be contacted through Counsel.)

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Astute

Willing to be interviewed further

Lives in a very remote location (FX-6 Personal Privacy)

1.& 2.

Retired in approximately 2007 after 30 years at the site

Worked for Energy Systems Group, formerly Atomics International

Last 8 or so years with Rocketdyne

3. Job Titles

Research mechanic

4. Type of Work

All kinds of work ranging from setting up equipment to running and operating facilities

5. Areas of Complex

Area II and Area IV

Many different facilities

Worked at Building 20 (Hot Lab) for 1-1.5 years

6. Radioactive Materials

Yes, worked with radiological material and dealt with disposal.

Not aware of any waste that was mishandled

Not aware of any radiological releases in areas he worked in, but was aware that cleanup crew found radioactive shavings in the Sodium Burn Pit that were probably dumped there in the 1950s.

7. Additional Notes

Stated he was willing to be interviewed further, but didn't know that he could provide much useful information.

Noted he did not have any photos or documents from his work in Area IV and that any documents he did have were packed away.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Hard of hearing, slow speech

Did not want to be interviewed further

1.& 2.

Worked at site from 1974-1997

Began under Atomics International

Worked at ETEC, funded by DOE

3. Job Titles

Worked in Engineering Department, Construction Management

4. Type of Work

Wrote procedures for cleanup of radiological facilities and supervised workers

Managed outside contractors working on sodium facilities

5. Areas of Complex

Had offices in Building 9, 26, 487

6. Radioactive Materials

Did not have hands on radiological cleanup responsibilities (only supervisory), but did have to wear film badge and protective clothing if visiting a building with residual contamination. Materials collected during cleanup were removed and packaged then shipped off-site to proper disposal location.

7. Additional Notes

Aware of previous history of site in terms of radiological accidents and disposal issues (Sodium Burn Pit), but didn't recall any issues when he was there.

Cooperative, but older, and did not want to participate in further interviews.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Daughter of Former Employee involved in radiological accident in 1960s

1.& 2.

FX-6 Personal Privacy was a test engineer for Rocketdyne. He died from kidney cancer about 25 years ago. Worked for Rocketdyne then left during layoffs and came back to work at Rocketdyne's Seal Beach facility.

3. Job Titles

Mr. FX-6 was a chief engineer on a test that went bad and he went in to shut down the test. He had to go through a decontamination procedure and get "washed down." The accident happened probably between 1962 and 1964. Ms. FX-6 was unaware of the specific test her father was working on.

4. Type of Work

Rocket testing at the Rocket Test Facility at SSFL (FX-6 made the distinction between the Rocket Test Facility and the Field Lab) and later did rocket testing at Vandenberg AFB.

5. Areas of Complex

Not sure where exactly, but seems to have been on the rocket test side of the SSFL

6. Radioactive Materials

Seemed to go through decontamination procedures like someone involved in radiological accident.

7. Additional Notes

Thought it would be useful to examine employment records to determine where her father was specifically located and what really happened.

When she was in Thousand Oaks (16 years ago), she met an FBI agent that did a public records request with the City of Thousand Oaks. He told her a story of radioactive water inadvertently being placed in Sparkletts water bottles and placed next to drinking water. Wonder if EPA could find FBI reports or contact City Clerk to examine public request records.

Noted her mother still received benefits from Rockwell, but did not want to get involved with issues at the site.

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Astute

Did not want to be interviewed further

1.& 2.

Worked at site from 1969-1990

Began under Atomics International

3. Job Titles

Quality Assurance Engineer

Manager of Quality Assurance Engineers

4. Type of Work

Oversaw activities at test sites

5. Areas of Complex

Trailer T486, Sodium Pump Test Facility (SPTF), SCTL, SCTL

6. Radioactive Materials

Did not think he worked with any radiological material

Did not wear a dosimeter

7. Additional Notes

Was aware of disposal at Sodium Burn Pit

Could not recall any incidents or unusual occurrences while at the SSFL

Did not want to participate any further with EPA investigation

EPA Screening Interview Notes

FX-6 Personal

Astute

Experience not relevant for EPA Area IV work

1.& 2.

1960s-1970s

Rocketdyne

3. Job Titles

Engineer

4. Type of Work

Rocket testing

5. Areas of Complex

Area II

6. Radioactive Materials

No

7. Additional Notes

Did not deal with radiological material or work in Area IV